

Author hosts book signing, raises AIDS awareness

Don Carrel discusses issues surrounding HIV/AIDS, reconnects with longtime friends

Andy Rao
news editor

Don Carrel was infected with HIV in 1981. An otherwise healthy individual, Carrel realized that he had contracted the fatal disease after reading an article about AIDS on his porch.

It was a defining moment in his life. After he tested positive for HIV, his doctor informed him that he would not be alive in two years.

"I went from just learning about the disease to wondering, 'Is there any way that I'm infected?'" Carrel said. "And when I actually found out I was infected, I wasn't completely surprised because I had suspected it for a year."

More than 30 years later, however, Carrel survives. The 1973 K-State graduate is now determined to turn his life-threatening situation into a positive learning experience for others, and has spoken to well over 100,000 high school and college students.

"It came to me in a dream," Carrel said. "I had several friends that were diagnosed with HIV around the same time I was and I was the only one that survived. This was my purpose."

On Saturday, Carrel returned to Manhattan to meet with the public at Bluestem Bistro in Aggieville and sign copies of his book "My Dream to Trample AIDS."

Carrel was a successful businessman who ran a kitchen supply store called Kitchens Plus and also ran a small restaurant called The Croissant Cafe.

Although he was well-liked by his customers, Carrel said that HIV and AIDS were socially taboo. He was forced to keep his condition a secret.

"Back then, people thought you could catch the disease by being in the same room as someone with AIDS," he said.

Carrel met with supporters and longtime friends and reconnected with previous Kitchens Plus and Croissant Cafe customers.

Bev Fulton, Manhattan resident, and her husband Rick, who are former Kitchens Plus customers, attended the book signing in hopes of meeting with Carrel to pass on words of encouragement.

"We love Don and what he represents," Fulton said. "I admire him and I'm so proud of him."

Carrel said that after he dreamt that he would educate high-school and college-age students, he went on to be a speaker and then wrote his book. The book details a personal account of his experience of being infected with HIV/AIDS and talks about various symptoms that he observed before being actually diagnosed.

"I remember one of the first articles I read about AIDS talked specifically about a condition called 'night sweats,'" Carrel said. "It's very similar to when you have a fever, and you go to sleep, and you wake up in like a puddle of sweat."

Carrel said that someone he was dating before he was



Author Don Carrel (center) signs a copy of his book entitled "My Dream to Trample AIDS," for Manhattan residents Bev and Rick Fulton (right and left) at Bluestem Bistro. The Fultons were customers at Kitchens Plus, a home supplies store that Carrel owned in Manhattan.

diagnosed had night sweats, and when he was reading about them, he realized that he might be infected.

"That was one of the longest articles I had ever read," he said.

Carrel said one of the best ways to "trample AIDS" is to focus on prevention rather than focusing the majority of resources on medication.

According to Carrel, the Kaiser Family Foundation reports that while about 57 percent of the government's budget for AIDS goes to care for those who are infected, only 3 percent of the budget is used for prevention.

"A lot of people have the mindset, 'Oh, it won't happen to me,'" Carrel said. "But it can happen. And even though people focus on the fact that treatments are getting better, it doesn't change the fact that AIDS is on the rise in the U.S."

Fulton said that Carrel's ability to connect with his audience has helped him effectively spread his message.

"I think he's a very driven person and when he's presented with life's biggest challenge he rose up to it," she said. "He's reached a lot of people and those kids that he speaks in front of are going to listen because he's real."

CP Ward, one of Carrel's



Manhattan residents and longtime friends speak to author Don Carrel (right) on Saturday's book signing event at Bluestem Bistro.

close friends, said that Carrel's book was an inspiration to her, and his cause is now near and dear to her heart.

"When I first read Don's book, I couldn't put it down," Ward said. "We've been friends since 1972, and he's just always been such a positive person."

Fulton's husband, Rick, agreed, saying that Carrel's optimistic outlook has not only helped him overcome adversity, but has also helped him make a difference in other people's lives.

Fulton echoed her husband, saying that one of the reasons she admires Carrel

is because she felt very few people could turn being infected with HIV/AIDS into something positive.

"Don saw an opportunity to turn a tragedy into something meaningful and helpful for others," Fulton said. "That's not a very easy thing to accomplish."

Manhattan hosts 23rd Juneteenth Festival

Celebration features live music, sporting events, localizes national holiday

Karen Ingram
edge editor/online editor

City Park was full of colorful tents, the smells of food and the sounds of laughter and music at the 23rd annual Juneteenth Community Festival over the weekend. Participants from Manhattan, Junction City and even Topeka participated in the festival.

Juneteenth is a national holiday observed in 41 of the 50 states. It celebrates the abolition of slavery in Texas in 1865.

The two-day event included gospel performances on Friday by several local churches and a free screening of the film "The Great Debaters" courtesy of the K-State program Movies on the Grass.

Saturday kicked off with a parade down Poyntz Avenue to City Park, followed by Mayor Loren Pepperd's reading of a proclamation declaring the dates of June 15-16 as Juneteenth.

Two scholarships of \$500 each were presented to two Manhattan High School students. Dakie Washington received the Don Slater Scholarship while Breonna Summers received the Geraldine Baker-Walton Scholarship. There was also a car show, music and entertainment at the Larry Norvell Bandshell.

"So many people come from the community and enjoy themselves," said Yache Glass, vendor coordinator for the Juneteenth Festival Committee. "It looks like a big family reunion."

Jonathan Anderson, basketball coordinator for the Juneteenth Festival, said he loved the community involvement that came with the festival each year. Anderson has been in charge of the basketball competition since 2008.

Between 10 and 15 teams compete in three different age groups: 13-15-year-olds, 16-17-year-olds and adults 18 and over. Trophies and other prizes are given to the winners of each age group.

"I love basketball," Anderson said. "I play it all the time, I watch it all the time. It's one of those games people will play rain or shine. It's just a fun event."

While Anderson said he enjoyed the Juneteenth Festival each year and being on the committee, he also said he wished there was more consistent support from the community. A frequent problem is having people who volunteer to help or participate in events in the fall, but as the next summer approaches, they drop the commitment.

Monique King, event coordinator for Juneteenth Festival, also said having people cancel was an issue. This year, some people who were slated to perform simply did not show up, which threw the schedule for all other performers.

In spite of these challenges, King was happy with the turnout for this year's festival and loved seeing people enjoy themselves.

Glass said there were a total of 37 vendors at this year's festival, which is about the same as last year, but there was more diversity in the types of vendors, including seven who attended the festival for the first time.

There were corporate vendors, such as U.S. Cellular and Herbalife, but also many local businesses and organizations at the festival, such as The Pampered Chef and the Manhattan Alliance for Peace and Justice. Food available included barbecue, West Indian, Southern and more.

The Knights of Columbus had a booth that provided free hot dogs, chips and water for children while Willie the Wildcat hung around the K-State booth and presented fans with photo opportunities.

Junction City residents Louis and Denise Robes took a break from their booth to take their three young

Have you ever, or would you ever, get tested for HIV/AIDS?

I have been tested before. 61%
I have thought about getting tested some day. 9%
I don't think I ever need to get tested. 30%

Poll taken from kstatecollegian.com

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ACROSS

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4 "Hail, Caesar!"

7 Shaft of light

8 Trap

10 "Who ya — call?"

11 Lube job

13 "The Seven Year Itch" star

16 Weep

17 Hermit

18 Charged bit

19 Moist in the morn

20 Scored 100 on

21 Spin

23 Arousing sus- picion

25 Actress Cannon

26 "A — home is ..."

27 Spring mo.

28 Metric measures

30 "Help!"

33 Classic comedy starring 13-

36 Tried hard

37 Just one of the bunch?

38 Stay in one place, like a heli- copter

39 Drones

40 Prepared

41 Golf gizmo

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2 Hindu princess

3 Not as big

4 Japanese cartoon style

5 "Discre- tion is the better part of —"

6 Ms. Brock- ovich

7 Piglets' papa

8 Cher's longtime partner

9 Improve

10 Yukon SUV man- ufacturer

12 Viscous

14 Cry of distress

15 Conclu- sion

19 Noise

20 Donkey

21 Mistakes in print

22 Ardor

23 Partner of fortune

24 percep- tion

25 "— Kapital"

26 Creator

28 Michael Jackson prop

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CRYPTOQUIP

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Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN TWO RIVERBED EXPERTS HAVE SIMILAR OPINIONS, THEY PROBABLY EXCLAIM "MY SEDIMENTS EXACTLY!"
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals T

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CRYPTOQUIP

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HUOIYM IYZGGS AUGYQC,
YBLAGGZASZQASLBPW
WSMUQQYW WUUI-CMQSWP
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINCE MY PRIMARY SUBJECT IN COLLEGE WAS "SUCCESS IN PLACING BETS," I WAS MAJORING IN WAGERING.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals O

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Letters may be rejected if they contain abusive content, lack timeliness, contain vulgarity, profanity or falsehood, promote personal and commercial announcements, repeat comments of letters printed in other issues or contain attachments.

The Collegian does not publish open letters, third-party letters or letters that have been sent to other publications or people.

CORRECTIONS

If you see something that should be corrected or clarified, please call our managing editor Laura Thacker at 785-532-6556, or email her at news@kstatecollegian.com

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THE BLOTTER

ARREST REPORTS

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

Evon Ann Obannon, of the 400 block of Vattier Street, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$1,500.

Jermaine Lamar Mosley, of the 3500 block of Hudson Circle, was booked for sale or distribution of hallucinogens and marijuana. Bond was set at \$4,000.

Jessica Marie Noe, of Wichita, was booked for sale or distribution of hallucinogens and marijuana. Bond was set at \$2,000.

Norberto Castro Oropeza, of the 600 block of Juliette Avenue, was booked for domestic battery. Bond was set at \$500.

FRIDAY, JUNE 15

Michael Steven Wilton, of the 900 block of Osage Street, was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$750.

Daniel Cole Arnwine, of the 900 block of Fourth Street, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$11,895.63.

Jayme Ray Deeever, of Topeka, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$500.

Michael William Duncan, of the 3700 block of Powers Lane, was booked for possession of opiates, opium or narcotics, unlawful possession of hallucinogens, unlawful possession of stimulants and driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$4,000.

Alexandra Lynnee McDermott, of Lawrence, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$159.

Tevin Lance Bruce, of Junction City, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$2,000.

Lindsey Rae Pruitt, of the 200 block of Westwood Road, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$750.

John David Brun, of the 800 block of Fremont Street, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$750.

Angela Sue Ressler, of the 400 block of Fourth Street, was booked for criminal trespassing. Bond was set at \$500.

SUNDAY, JUNE 17

Christian Lee Porter, of the 1300 block of Overlook Drive, was booked for no driver's license. Bond was set at \$1,500.

MONDAY, JUNE 18

Douglas Haggennmiller Stefany, of the 500 block of Stone Drive, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$250.

Douglas Haggennmiller Stefany, of the 500 block of Stone Drive, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$70.

Hanmi Ponder, of the 800 block of Thurston Street, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$500.

Brittany Starlynn Beasley, of the 3100 block of Heritage Court, was booked for domestic battery. Bond was set at \$500.

TUESDAY, JUNE 19

Albert Ray Withers, of the 1800 block of Claflin Road, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$750.

Samantha Ann Price, of the 800 block Yuma Street, was booked for domestic battery and criminal restraint. Bond was set at \$1,000.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

Aaron James Norris, of the 2200 block of College Avenue, was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$750.

Compiled by Laura Thacker

Arrest Reports
See kstatecollegian.com for the rest of The Blotter.

#theFourum

Will return for fall classes.

Your tweet, along with your identifying information, may be selected for publication in the Fourum.

Vanishing middle class greater threat to music industry than piracy



Karen Ingram

The music industry has been throwing fits about illegal downloads for years. Probably longer than you realize. I'm old enough to remember artists complaining about people recording stuff from the radio onto cassette tapes and how this was hurting the industry. Today, however, I am more annoyed with these prima donnas than I used to be because they are whining about moles in their backyard when there's a hungry bear waiting for them by the mailbox. What I'm trying to say is, illegal downloads are the least of the music industry's worries. There is a far bigger enemy out there: the vanishing middle class.

The class structure of America, as well as other developed nations, is changing. The middle class used to make up much of the population. Now, thanks to the economic woes of the world, the middle class is shrinking. According to a June 12 article on *digitalmusicnews.com*, the Survey of Consumer Finances reported that between 2007 and 2010, the average American family's income shrank by almost 8 percent and their net worth shrank by 61 percent.

Three-quarters of American families have some sort of debt, and families are converting their large retirement savings into smaller "emergency" funds.

Yeah, that's hilarious, but what does that have to do with the music industry? I'm glad you asked. Think about this: Where does the music industry make most of its money? It's not from album sales. Yes, they do make money off of songs and albums sold, but the bulk of their money comes from other sources like concerts and merchandise. If the only people who can afford these luxuries are rich people, the industry is screwed.

There aren't enough rich people in America to

buy all the tickets to anyone's show, let alone a concert tour across the states. Sell-out crowds will become a thing of the past. Musicians, no matter how big and famous, will suffer from the loss. Perhaps they'll be forced to make money in other ways, such as following Ozzy into the embarrassing realm of reality TV.

But the vanishing middle class will not just affect the big, rich artists who "made it." Like all rich people, famous musicians are the minority of their population. And, conversely, the "starving artists" who are trying to find their big break are also a minority. The majority of musicians are just like the majority of Americans: middle class.

Most are people who play in bars and local music festivals, have limited (if any) touring, and basically use their band as a hobby instead of a major source of income. Many of them have the most average day jobs you can imagine. Music is their passion, but it is not their livelihood.

And music is an expensive hobby. There's instruments and equipment, upkeep of said instruments and equipment, music

lessons, recording studios, travel expenses and the most precious resource of all: time. If the middle class gets sucked dry and we become a two-class system — rich and poor — music will dry up, too. We won't have Arts in the Park or the Red State Blues Band. We won't have kids playing the french horn in middle school band, hating it and switching to bass guitar in high school, because their

parents won't be able to afford either one.

You could argue that music is a luxury. It's not like air or food. Technically, we are capable of living without it. But I can't imagine living in a world without it, and I don't want to even try.

So, to the mega-rich rock stars, I say quit worrying about the small-time thieves out there. The day may come when you may look back at Napster with a feeling of nostalgia. The day may come when you look out at the empty stadium seats and realize that this is the day the music truly died.

Karen Ingram is a senior in English. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.



Illustration by Erin Logan

Celebrities should not be targeted in frivolous, excessive lawsuits



Joshua Madden

Adam "Pacman" Jones, a cornerback for the Cincinnati Bengals, may be a bad person, but the media's reasons justifying the case against him haven't been much better.

According to a June 17 *ESPN.com* article, Jones has been told to pay two Las Vegas strip club employees \$11 million in damages resulting from injuries in 2007. The incident consisted of a lone gunman who claimed he was following orders from Jones and opened fire on two employees.

Jones could very well have been guilty of involvement in the incident — he did plead no contest to a misdemeanor count of conspiracy to commit disorderly conduct — but to prove that Jones was directly responsible for the shooting would have been bordering on impossible given that he wasn't actually the shooter.

Tommy Urbanski, one of the victims in the incident, has been left paralyzed from the waist down. According to the article cited above, Urbanski said over the phone on June 15 that he believes "the verdict will send a message to athletes and celebrities that they can be held responsible for public 'rampaging,' even if they escape criminal charges."

"They've got to clean up their acts," Urbanski was quoted as saying. "All of them."

Don't misunderstand me — Urbanski suffered a serious

injury that he will deal with for the rest of his life and he has absolutely every right to go after Jones for compensation. Jones was quite possibly guilty of involvement and the courts seem to be agreeing with Urbanski on this.

My problem is that the media seems to find it fair that since Jones is a celebrity, he should be held to a higher standard. Most celebrities want to be left alone, and the idea that they should all be subjected to lawsuits and standards that private citizens would not be is simply unjust.

If Jones has to pay \$11 million for possibly being involved in a shooting, I won't really lose sleep over that, but

I'm tired of people trying to justify the payoff on the merits of him being a celebrity. Isn't potential involvement in a shooting enough? Why do we have to add a pseudo-surtax onto the charge because Jones is good at football? Last time I checked, shootings were bad regardless of whether the per-

petrator was a celebrity or not.

When even Justin Bieber can be sued for extremely questionable cases — for example, the infamous paternity suit or his recent alleged confrontation with a photographer — and they aren't dismissed off-hand, that seems to say that maybe our standard

for suing celebrities is lower than it should be.

This country's civil court system needs reform desperately. We need to limit the potential damages for pain and injury and we need to create a higher burden of proof for those bringing the lawsuits forward. The criminal

court system demands that the prosecution prove a case beyond a reasonable doubt. For some reason, in our civil system, the only doubt is how much to sue for.

If Jones has to pay up, fine. But let's not pretend it's justified because he's a celebrity.

Besides, he might end up being on my fantasy football team, and if he is, I don't want him distracted. Because if he's distracted and doesn't score me enough points and I lose an important matchup, I might just have to sue someone.

Joshua Madden is a non-degree seeking graduate student. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.



Illustration by Yosuke Michishita

STREET TALK

Who is your favorite musical artist and why?

"Bob Dylan. He's one of the few musical artists that actually has something to say about political things and societal things instead of just love songs."

Jordan Powers
junior, open option

"Led Zeppelin. He just is the definition of rock 'n' roll."

Will Brown
senior, secondary education

"Incubus. They're amazing musicians and their songs can be taken so many ways. They're inspiring."

Crystal Strauss
senior, women's studies

"Newton Faulkner. The style of music he plays is very unique and interesting. I like to play it myself."

Justin Foster
senior, secondary education

"Bob Dylan. He has an amazing ability to discern what doesn't seem right, the ability to articulate it and put it poetically. He's no composer but he's definitely a poet."

Kyle Tomlinson
senior, social work

"The John Butler Trio. I like them because they're rock but they kind of have a country-jazzy sound."

Natalie Cano
junior, secondary education

Internship allows student to combine passion for music, PR

Emily Henderson
staff writer

You can learn a lot in school, but how do you get the hands-on experience many potential employers are looking for?

Gloria Freeland, assistant professor in journalism and director of the Huck Boyd National Center for Community Media, said public relations students are required to complete an internship because “it’s important for students to get firsthand experience in their chosen career paths.”

I could not agree with her more. As a PR student, I am required to have an internship in order to graduate. Throughout the next two months, I will be interning in the Public Relations and Marketing Department of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra in downtown Dallas. The DSO is a world-class orchestra and performs in the Morton H.

Meyerson Symphony Center, which is considered to be one of the world’s finest concert halls.

In an average week, I attend four to six meetings, write press releases and am starting to implement a

summer social media campaign. A lot of my work has been critiqued and I am improving my skills. It can be a little disheartening, but I know it is necessary and in the end I am gaining a priceless amount of experience and knowledge, as well as material to put into a portfolio. I have

only been working with the symphony for a short time, but I already love it.

I chose to intern at the DSO for a reason. I am receiving a minor in music. Music has always been a passion of mine. My parents both attended

college as music majors and my grandmother is the owner of Brier & Hale Music Co. Inc., a music store that currently has locations in Liberal and Dodge City, Kan., and has been present in western Kansas for more than 57 years.

Although I am actively involved in music, many of my co-workers here at the DSO are not. It is not a requirement to be musically inclined to work for a symphony, but a music background can be beneficial when writing concert reviews and press releases.

With the help of my previous adviser, the late Todd Simon, I was able to pinpoint what exactly it was I wanted to do. I remember sitting in his office and telling him I wanted to do both PR and music. He

asked me what type of music I wanted to be involved in. At the time, I had no idea, but I said a symphony, indie music label or a jazz record label.

He said, “I think you should do the symphony because that is what came out of your mouth first.”

He was right. I couldn’t be happier with my decision to move (temporarily) to Dallas and work for the DSO.

I honestly believe that obtaining a minor in music could put me ahead of my competitors when I start job hunting next spring. Many people would have no idea how to connect journalism and music. I do not want anyone to think that because they love two separate fields of study, they have to sacrifice one passion over the other. I was able to mix my two passions into what could potentially become a career after graduation.

I think it is great that many departments at K-State require and encourage internships. The majority of them are not paid, like mine, but the experience makes up for it. I highly encourage students to look around for internships, especially ones that make you step out of your comfort zone. My

first day I had already attended two meetings and written my first press release. It was scary.

I am also slowly getting accustomed to city life, residing in a town located between Dallas and Fort Worth called Euless. It takes me approximately 20 minutes to get to work every day and about 45 minutes to get home. Because I am not a Dallas native, or a native of any large city for that matter, I was terrified to drive in downtown for the first few days.

There is no doubt in my mind that K-State has prepared me for this internship. Every day at the symphony, I use skills that I have learned since attending college. Even from the start of my application process, I utilized information I was taught through clubs that I am involved in and seminars given by Career and Employment Services.

I am also learning how different and unique Manhattan is compared to other places. I cannot wait to get back to a town full of purple and drinks under \$5.

Emily Henderson is a senior in mass communication. Please send comments to edge@kstatecollegian.com.

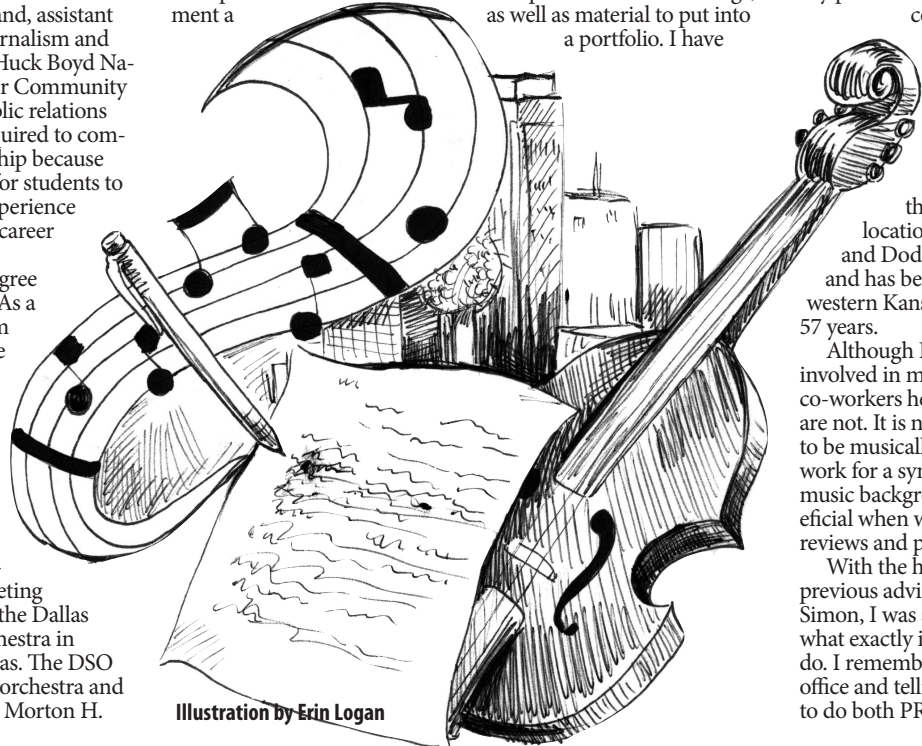


Illustration by Erin Logan

‘Rock of Ages’ provides good music, lackluster characters

“Rock of Ages”

★★★★☆

Movie review by Joshua Madden



Courtesy photo

There are two reasons to see “Rock of Ages” — the music and the cast. While they’re both great, the problem is that those are pretty much the only two reasons to see this movie.

If you’re a fan of ‘80s rock, then you’ve hit the jackpot with “Rock of Ages.” It features pretty much every ‘80s song you would want in a movie. If you’ve ever wanted to see Tom Cruise sing a cover of Bon Jovi’s “Wanted Dead or Alive,” again, you’ve hit the jackpot. If you want a movie with a really compelling storyline, however, it’s probably best if you try to a different slot machine, because that jackpot is no where to be found in this movie.

To summarize what little plot there is in this movie, Julianne Hough portrays Sherrie Christian, a stock character we’ve seen in several musicals before. Christian is a talented singer who moves from the Midwest with big dreams and

hopes to make it big in Hollywood. She’s beautiful and she can sing — that’s all we’re really asked to care about.

There’s nothing particularly compelling about this character, but in fairness to “Rock of Ages,” the owner of the bar she ends up working at, Dennis Dupree (played by Alec Baldwin), mocks this within the film. So while “Rock of Ages” may be lazy, at least it shows a degree of self-awareness about its own laziness.

Ultimately, it doesn’t really matter how unoriginal the plot of the movie is because the thrills of seeing the cast do something different makes up for it. Tom Cruise is the obvious example in the film, portraying Stacey Jaxx, the lead singer of a band called Arsenal that is in the process of breaking up. He winds up getting involved in the plot because Arsenal is doing their last show at Dupree’s bar (The Bourbon Room) before Jaxx begins his solo career.

Cruise actually does a pretty good job of portraying the aging rocker and I was surprised to find out after seeing the film that he did his own singing. He actually has a decent voice and holds his own as a rock god.

Malin Akerman might be the most pleasant surprise in “Rock of Ages.” She plays Constance Sack, a reporter for Rolling Stone magazine that seems focused on holding Stacey Jaxx accountable for being difficult when he works with others.

Jaxx is, admittedly, fairly self-obsessed and so the relationship that develops between them — which is based almost entirely on her calling him out on his arrogance — does seem to actually work within the context for the film.

Rounding out the top three performances is Catherine Zeta-Jones’ performance as the film’s antagonist, Patricia Whitmore, the wife of the mayor of Los Angeles who has taken it upon herself to rid the world of the sinful Bourbon Room and, more notably, Stacey Jaxx. Zeta-Jones is one of the few genuine sources of humor in the film.

At the end of the day, “Rock of Ages” is a musical and doesn’t try to be much else, so with Cruise and others getting the chance to sing songs like “We’re Not Gonna Take It,” “We Built This City,” “Don’t Stop Believin’” and “Pour Some Sugar on Me,” it’s hard to complain too much. The music works and that’s all I can really ask of the film.

I am awarding “Rock of Ages” three stars out of five. If you like ‘80s rock or seeing actors go out on a limb with campy performances, then you really can’t go wrong with this film. But if you’re expecting a hard-hitting look at rock culture or a serious period piece, this is one you can skip out on.

Joshua Madden is a non-degree seeking graduate student. Please send comments to edge@kstatecollegian.com.

Regina Spektor’s new album short, but emotionally strong

“What We Saw From the Cheap Seats”

★★★★★

Music review by Laura Thacker



Courtesy photo

I will not tell a lie, I love Regina Spektor with a passion. I saw her in concert once and I cried like a crazed Backstreet Boys fan from the ‘90s. Needless to say, I had high hopes for her new album, “What We Saw From the Cheap Seats,” and I was not disappointed.

For those of you unfamiliar with Spektor, she is a singer-songwriter who was born in Russia, moved to New York around age 10 and was classically trained on the piano from childhood. Like every other Regina Spektor album, “What We Saw From the Cheap Seats” is filled with songs in varying styles, and even varying languages.

The album starts out with a track that almost any Kansan can relate to called “Small Town Moon.” It starts

out slowly but gets more upbeat as the song goes on, and it asks a question that I remember asking myself when I moved out of my hometown: “How can I leave without hurting everyone that made me?” Despite the somewhat serious subject, I found myself dancing about a minute into the song on the first listen.

The third track, “Don’t Leave Me (Ne me quitte pas),” which devout fans will recognize as an updated version of a track from her 2002 album “Songs,” includes French in the chorus.

The first single on the album, “All the Rowboats,” is phenomenal. The piano is beautiful and the lyrics reflect on the loneliness of masterpieces in museums: “All the galleries, the museums / Here’s your ticket, welcome to the tombs / They’re just public mausoleums / The living dead fill every room.” Spektor is an incredible storyteller. The imagery of rowboats in paintings caught in a constant struggle to row away is one that you won’t soon forget.

“Patron Saint” is another song that I immediately related to with the opening line, “She’s the kind of girl who’ll smash herself down in the night / She’s the kind of girl who’ll fracture her mind ‘til it’s light.” Who hasn’t stayed up all night beating themselves up at one time or another? Spektor turns this unfortunate part of existence

into a catchy tune about a patron saint who is “broken and lame and absolutely insane for learning that true love exists.”

“Ballad of a Politician” is my favorite track on the album. Ever heard a song about a political figure with the line “Shake it shake it baby, shake your ass out in that street”? I hadn’t either, until now. This short, sarcastic story of a political power plays sums up a lot of how I feel about Sam Brownback, and boy, did I need an outlet for some of those feelings. Thank you, Regina.

As there isn’t a song on this album that I dislike, I won’t bore you with a run down of every single one, but “The Party” is another song that stood out to me on initial listen. Like “Small Town Moon,” it starts out playful and fun, but upon listening to the lyrics, you realize that it delves into a deeper subject matter.

The only complaint I have about this album is that it isn’t long enough. It has 11 tracks and three bonus tracks, but it only clocks in at about 45 minutes long. Believe me, the more Regina Spektor, the better. I give this album 5 out of 5 stars. If you do anything this summer, listen to this album.

Laura Thacker is a May 2012 graduate in English and women’s studies. Please send comments to edge@kstatecollegian.com.

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City commission to make recommendations on social services funding

Laura Thacker
managing editor

On June 5, the Manhattan City Commission ruled 4-1 that the petition for a proposed ordinance to require social services funding was not eligible for the referendum process; essentially, they ruled it was invalid. On June 26, commissioners will discuss funding options for social service agencies like the K-State Child Development Center and the Manhattan Emergency Shelter.

The commissioners' decision not to consider the petition and ordinance was based on the counsel of the city attorney, who gave the legal opinion that the petition was administrative, not legislative.

James Sherow, city commissioner and professor of history, was the only commissioner who voted against following the city attorney's counsel.

"I wasn't uncomfortable at all about making that vote," Sherow said. "It seemed a little odd about how it came about. It wasn't tested in court, so no one, not me, not the rest of the commissioners, knows if the opinion of the city counsel was right or not."

Sherow said on June 26, the

outside agencies will make their funding requests to the commission and the commissioners will make recommendations to the city manager about whether or not to fund those requests.

According to Debbie Nuss, co-chair of Save Our Social Services, the group that circulated the petition, state statute allows a group 180 days to collect enough signatures.

Between Nov. 9, 2011, and May 4, S.O.S. collected close to 1,800 signatures. Of those signatures collected, 1,500 were certified by the state.

Group members were involved in a variety of ways, Nuss said, some circulating petitions, others just spreading the word, but overall about 100 people were involved in the process.

The proposed ordinance would, among other things, require that 2 percent of the general budget go to approved social services. Despite all the volunteers' time and work, however, the group decided before the June 5 City Commission meeting that they would not take any legal action, regardless of the outcome.

"We were disappointed, obviously, and surprised a little bit," Nuss said of the commission's

decision. "We thought that at least three commissioners would respect the process that we had gone through that was provided by statutes and would respect that 1,800 people in the community had signed the petition; 1,800 people in the community wanted to give the public the chance to vote on the matter."

Nuss said the group will make sure they identify candidates to support for the next city commission election, which takes place in April 2013.

Nuss said that members of S.O.S. will be present at the meeting to urge the commissioners to continue funding social services.

Kristi Mendenhall, graduate student in public administration, was one of those who circulated the petition. Mendenhall also did an extensive policy analysis of Manhattan's social service

funding for one of her classes last semester. She analyzed various budget documents to collect statistics about the city of Manhattan, the state of Kansas and, for comparison, the city of Lawrence.

Mendenhall conducted research on the city of Manhattan's mission in her written report, which states that the city government "serves its residents and visitors by providing services which they cannot provide by themselves alone."

She also reported that Manhattan's poverty rate grew to 28.8 percent between 2000 and 2010. In comparison, the poverty rate for the state overall grew only to 12.4 percent, which, Mendenhall says, highlights a need for social services in the community.

"In reality, our budget decisions reflect our values, and what we spend as a government and

as individuals is a reflection of who we are and what we value," Mendenhall said. "I don't feel like spending 2 percent of the city's budget on people who need it the most is that difficult."

Sherow made a similar point, saying he believes that government should play a role in providing social services and that budget cuts would primarily affect children who receive these services.

At the June 5 City Commission meeting, commissioners discussed other options for social services funding, including finding alternative sources of funding, relying on private donors and prioritizing services. Nuss said she agreed with some of these suggestions, but did not feel it was enough.

"Commissioners who say there would be private funding, they're correct," Nuss said. "It should be a public-private partnership."

Mendenhall said she did not think that prioritizing social services was the correct option, as it would pit agencies against each other. Many of these services work as a network to refer clients to one another, she said, and introducing competition would only harm those in need.

In the June 5 meeting, Mayor

Loren Pepperd pointed out that Manhattan has a low unemployment rate and that people can support themselves through work instead of utilizing these social services.

Mendenhall stated in her report that Manhattan's unemployment rate increased to 5.2 percent between 2000 and 2010, which is 2 percent lower than the state average. But this statistic does not mean that social services are not needed, she said.

"You can't live on minimum wage and just because someone is employed, it doesn't mean they aren't needing of the services provided," she said. "People who live in a homeless shelter are not necessarily unemployed."

Mendenhall also said she believes that although many students are only in Manhattan for a short period of time, they are not as engaged with government as they should be.

She said that students should speak up about the issues and what they enjoy about the community. She said her own experiences fuel her support of social services funding.

"If it wasn't for social services funding," she said. "I wouldn't be where I am today."

"Our budget decisions reflect our values, and what we spend as a government and as individuals is a reflection of who we are and what we value."

Kristi Mendenhall
graduate student in public administration

FORBES | Residents say economy, hometown feel, creates desirable environment



Continued from page 3

town as well as the development between Manhattan and Wamego has grown dramatically.

She said that Kansas Highway 24 between Manhattan and Wamego was a two-lane road and has been expanded to a four-lane road since 1994, which is largely because of the growth Manhattan has seen.

"The town just keeps getting bigger and bigger since I moved here," Garver said.

Hendrix said that for Manhattan's growth to continue, the city will need to focus on developing infrastructure.

"Some people might feel that the current east-west passage ways we have — Anderson, Claflin, Fort Riley — might not be able to sustain greater amounts of traffic," Hendrix said. "Infrastructure would be roads, schools, housing — we can maintain growth

by making sure that the growth is managed and that the infrastructure we need is in place to sustain that growth."

Garver said that while Manhattan has grown as a community, it has retained much of its unique character.

"I think as much as we talk about how much Manhattan has grown, it still has a small town atmosphere, which I think is attractive to people and is why a lot of people move here," Garver said.

Hendrix also said that he had enjoyed living in Manhattan and said that he believes the future of the city looks positive.

"This is my 12th year here; over the 11 years that I've been here I've enjoyed seeing the growth and I think it's been managed pretty well," Hendrix said. "I think Manhattan is a better place to live now than it was a few years ago and I'm looking forward to seeing that continue."

Hannah Hunsinger | Collegian

Manhattan is set to become home to NBAF, pending federal aid. The site will be built near the intersection of Denison and Kimball Avenue, and is expected to generate roughly \$2.5 billion.

Weekly Manhattan area news briefs

Karen Ingram
edge/online editor

Fort Riley soldier charged with murder; investigation pending

A Fort Riley soldier has been charged with murder. Pvt. John Hughes was arrested and charged with the murder of Pvt. Thomas Lavrey. Lavrey was found with stab wounds in his living quarters on May 14 and pronounced dead at Irwin Army Community Hospital.

Hughes is also being charged with resisting arrest and larceny, but it could not be confirmed if these charges were related to the murder or not, as the analysis of the forensics is still pending.

Hughes is currently being held at the United States Disciplinary Barracks at Fort Leavenworth in Leavenworth, Kan., pending investigation.

Both soldiers were in the Special Troops Battalion, 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st In-

fantry Division.

Hughes was a wheeled vehicle mechanic, while Lavrey was a utilities equipment repairer.

Lavrey was a native of West Seneca, New York. He is survived by his parents, two brothers and a sister.

Woman suffers knee injury in strong-arm robbery; suspect at large

A woman was injured in a strong-arm robbery at 2101 Sloan St. on June 14. According to a press release by the Riley County Police Department, 48-year old Teresa White was pushed down from behind as she entered her residence, injuring her knee in the fall. The suspect stole White's purse and fled the area on foot. He is described as a black male in his early 30s, approximately 5 feet 7 inches tall and 200 lbs, with a chubby face and close-cropped hair. He was wearing black jeans and a black

shirt with white horizontal strips. RCPD is asking anyone with information to please call Crime Stoppers at 785-539-7777, or 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Anonymous tips can also be submitted via the Manhattan/Riley County Crime Stoppers website at manhattanrileycountycrimestoppers.com.

Kansas gas prices still lower than national average

While the national average fell 3.2 cents per gallon, gas prices in Kansas have risen 8.5 cents in the last week. The average price for gas in Kansas was \$3.42 per gallon while the national average was \$3.53 as of Sunday. However, prices are 10.5 cents lower than one year ago on the same day. Patrick DeHaan, senior petroleum analyst for GasBuddy.com, said fuel prices would likely rise in the future because of the elections in Greece.

"While any gains in oil

prices won't likely be immediately felt, the debt situation in Europe bears keeping a close eye on, as it has far-reaching global implications," he said.

Notable Kansans honored, inducted into Kansas Hall of Fame

The Kansas Hall of Fame at the Great Overland Station had its second year of inducting famous Kansans and celebrating their accomplishments last Friday. The inductees for 2012 included Governor Alfred M. Landon, his daughter Senator Nancy Landon Kassebaum Baker, Topeka founder Cyrus K. Holliday, actor Edward Asner, scientist and inventor George Washington Carver, journalist William Allen White and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway. More information on the Kansas Hall of Fame and inductees can be found at greatoverlandstation.com/index.html.

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New faces on campus



Caroline Sweeney | Collegian

ABOVE: Mykee Sellon, 2012 graduate from Olathe Northwest High School, speaks with a representative from Powercat Financial in the K-State Student Union on Tuesday. Incoming students had a chance to walk around the Union and explore different activities for the upcoming year.

LEFT: Incoming freshmen Bryanna Moore, 2012 graduate from Osawatomie High School, and Brecka Waugh, 2012 graduate from Oakley High School, sign up for Wildcats Forever in the K-State Student Union on Tuesday. Orientation and enrollment will be held in the Union all week for incoming students.

Country Stampede calendar: June 21-24

Tuttle Creek State Park will once again play host to the annual Country Stampede music festival from Thursday through Sunday. The four-day event, now in its 17th year, is expected to attract more than 150,000 visitors; last year, approximately 160,000 people attended over the course of the event. This year's headliners include Luke Bryan, the Zac Brown Band, The Band Perry and Toby Keith. Tickets are available online at countrystampede.com or over the phone at 800-795-8091. Four-day adult tickets cost \$130 and daily passes cost \$75. Tickets for children from ages 6 to 12 are \$15 per day or \$25 for the whole weekend. Children up to age 6 are free. VIP and reserved seating passes are also available for \$545 and \$270, respectively. Outside food and beverages, including water, are not allowed inside the concert grounds. All bags are subject to search at the gate. Uniformed patrolmen will be present to maintain security throughout Country Stampede. For traffic updates and weather, check WIBW-FM 94.5.

THURSDAY

5 p.m. - Lucas Hoge
6:30 p.m. - The Cleverlys
8 p.m. - The Farm
9:30 p.m. - Luke Bryan



FRIDAY

2:30 p.m. - Travis Marvin
4 p.m. - Thomas Rhett
5:30 p.m. - Steve Holy
7:30 p.m. - Travis Tritt
9:30 p.m. - Zac Brown Band



SATURDAY

2:30 p.m. - WIBW-FM 94.5
Road to Stampede Winner
4 p.m. - JT Hodges
5:30 p.m. - Jerrod Niemann
7:30 p.m. - Brantley Gilbert
9:30 p.m. - Toby Keith



SUNDAY

2:30 p.m. - Evidence of Journey
4 p.m. - Sweethearts of the Rodeo
6 p.m. - John Michael Montgomery
8 p.m. - The Band Perry



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